

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:

EBERSOLE ET AL

CASE NO.: BC1002 US NA

SERIAL NO.: 09/548,998

GROUP ART UNIT: 1636

FILED: APRIL 14, 2000

EXAMINER: LOEB, B

FOR: NUCLEIC ACID FRAGMENTS FOR THE
IDENTIFICATION OF DECHLORINATING
BACTERIA

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RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT TO NOTICE TO COMPLY WITH REQUIREMENTS
FOR PATENT APPLICATIONS CONTAINING NUCLEOTIDE SEQUENCE AND/OR
AMINO ACID SEQUENCE DISCLOSURES

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated May 20, 2002 please
amend the above-referenced application as follows:

REMARKS

Applicants have previously responded to a notice to comply with requirements for patent applications containing nucleotide sequence and/or amino acid sequence disclosures, mailed on March 11, 2002. Applicants response was deemed unresponsive with respect to the issues raised in box 7.

In box No. 7 the Examiner notes that the lengths of the sequences listed on Figures 1 and 2 do not correlate to the lengths of the same sequences as recited in the Sequence Listing. The Examiner suggests that either the Figures or the Sequence Listing should be amended to justify this apparent discrepancy.

In reviewing the Figures, Applicants note that the lengths of the sequences listed represent the length of the gapped sequence as adjusted by the alignment program and not the length of the sequence per se. Hence the "lengths" of the sequences shown on the Figures appear longer than those in the Sequence Listing as each contains several gaps. However, the number and order of the nucleotides in each sequence represented in the Figures is the same as the corresponding sequence in the sequence listing.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES
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6/10/02
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MARY BETH PITCHER

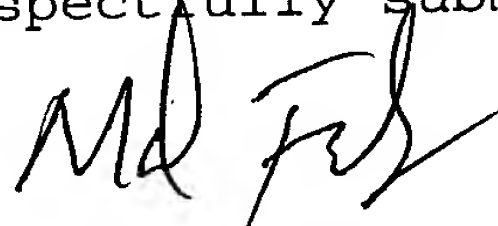
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For clarity, Applicant's are submitting herewith modified Figures 1 and 2 which do not list the gapped "lengths" of the sequence at the top of the Figure.

If the fee associated with this Response is insufficient or incorrect, please charge or credit the balance to Deposit Account No. 04-1928 (E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company).

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated:

6/10/02